

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11 INT-08

L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 FEAE-00 OMB-01 SWF-02 OIC-04 NEA-14 DRC-01

SAM-01 /240 W

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P R 191730Z JUL 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7222

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, EAGR
SUBJECT: JULY 19 GATT COUNCIL DISCUSSION EC MEAT
RESTRICTIONS

REF: STATE 156173 AND 155709

BEGIN SUMMARY: NUMEROUS COUNTRIES EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE
WITH EC MEAT RESTRICTIONS, INDICATING DISPROPORTIONATE
BURDEN ON IMPORTS AND CITING DANGERS OF PROLIFERATION.
THERE WAS MENTION OF NEED FOR MULTILATERAL CONSIDERA-
TION OF MEAT PROBLEMS, BUT NO DECISIONS WERE MADE.
FOR MEMENT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS CONTINUE. END SUMMARY

1. AFTER YUGOSLAVIA RAISED MATTER UNDER OTHER BUSINESS
AT JULY 19 GATT COUNCIL, EC CIRCULATED GATT NOTIFICATION
OF BAN ON BEEF AND CATTLE IMPORTS (L/4004/ADD.6,
JULY 19, COPY BEING CARRIED WASHINGTON BY BARRACLOUGH,
EB/OT). DOCUMENT QUOTES COMPLEXITY OF EC REGULATIONS
AND SAYS MEASURE NOT APPLICABLE TO TARIFF QUOTA ITEMS.
ALSO SAYS EC READY CONSULT WITH CPS HAVING SUBSTANTIAL
INTEREST AS EXPORTERS TO EC MARKET.

2. YUGOSLAVIA, CITING STRONG EFFECT ON YUGOSLAVIA,
SAID EC ACTION WAS DAMAGING AND SERIOUS AND THAT "THIS
BEHAVIOUR BEGINNING AFFECT RULES OF CONDUCT AND SPIRIT
OF GATT." YUGOSLAVIA SAID ACTION PUTS PRESSURE ON OTHER
IMPORTING COUNTRIES AND COULD HAVE DISASTROUS RESULTS
IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE, EVENTUALLY AFFECTING THE PRODUCTS
WHICH EC IMPORTS. YUGOSLAVIA REQUESTED ARTICLE XXII
BILATERAL CONSULTATION BUT RESERVED RIGHT COMMUNICATE
TO COUNCIL RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS AND SUPPORTED IDEA
OF BROAD EFFORTS ADDRESS MULTILATERAL MEAT PROBLEMS.

2. AUSTRALIA REITERATED SAME GENERAL THEMES AND SAID
EC MEAT SOLUTION WAS DUE TO INTERNAL CAUSES AS WELL
AS TO IMPORTS AND SAID IMPORTS BEARING DISPROPORTIONATE
BURDEN OF ADJUSTMENT. AUSTRALIA RECALLED OWN 1972
EFFORTS RESIST EXPORT CONTROLS AT TIME WHEN BEEF IN
SHORT SUPPLY AND SAID EC RESTRICTIONS MAY AFFECT OWN
LONG-TERM ABILITY TO SUPPLY DUE TO IMPACT ON INVESTMENT
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DECISIONS. AUSTRALIA SAID THEY NOW REVIEWING OWN POLI-
CIES AND GATT RIGHTS.

3. NEW ZEALAND SUPPORTED THEME OF DISPROPORTIONATE
BURDEN ON IMPORTERS AND, CITING INTERNATIONAL REPER-
CUSSIONS, SAW ACTION IN CONTEXT OF JAPANESE ACTION
TAKEN EARLIER IN YEAR. NEW ZEALAND DOUBTED IT SUFFICIENT
BILATERALLY AND FORESAW POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE COUCIL

SESSION ON MATTER.

3. ROMANIA, REFERRING TO MEDIA COVERAGE OF UNHAPPY EC FARMERS, SAID TV DIDN'T SHOW MOOD OF ROMIAN FARMERS. ROMANIA CRITIZED LACK OF ADVANCE CONSULTATION AND CALLED FOR GATT-WIDE SOLUTION. OTHERS DEPLORING EC ACTION AND LACK OF ADVANCE CONSULTATION WERE HUNGARY, URUGUAY, POLAND, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA. BRAZIL WAS ONLY COUNTRY REFERRING TO OECD STANDSTILL. ARGENTINA CAUTIONED THAT COUNTRIES SUCH AS AUSTRALIA, WHEN CONSULTING BILATERALLY, NOT ACCEPT SHORT-TERM SOLUTION TO LONG-TERM PROBLEM.

4. US (MILLER), DEPLORED EC ACTION AND SUPPORTED GENERAL EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN, PARTICULARLY CITING DIFFICULTIES EC ACTION CAUSES FOR OTHERS TO RESIST PRESSURE FOR OWN RESTRICTIONS. US TOOK GENERAL APPROACH INDICATED IN REFTELS. (NO DISCUSSION AROSE ON SPECIFIC GATT ARTICLES.)

5. EC (RABOT) DAID MEASURES TAKEN WITH REGRET BUT INTERNAL CORRECTIONS ALSO BEING PURSUED. EC SIDE-STEPPED MORE ELABORATE EXCHANGE BY POINTING TO OWN DIFFICULTIES AND CHARACTERIZING OWN EMPTY INTERVENTION AS "FIRST RESPONSE".

6. COUNCIL "TOOK NOTE" OF VARIOUS STATEMENTS MADE. NO CONSENSUS REACHED ON ANY ACTION BEYOND PURSUIT OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH EC BY AFFECTED PARTIES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORT CONTROLS, MEATS, IMPORT LICENSES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA04636
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740195-0371
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740735/aaaabdsb.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 156173 AND 155709
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <20 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JULY 19 GATT COUNCIL DISCUSSION EC MEAT RESTRICTIONS
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, XG, US, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005